

Open House Speech by Steve O'Connor for 6 September 2011

Honorable Guests, Library Users, Colleagues, Niuei hao,

The University Library, the Pao Yue-kong Library, delivers to the new generation of University staff and students the services and environment they require to study effectively. The Library is no longer the edifice where all recorded knowledge is housed but is the path to recorded published knowledge wherever it is sourced. There are a number of our University disciplines whose literature may never go digital to the extent that others have but there are continuing issues as to how to get access to electronic resources which are only subscription based. The danger for information being locked away by multi-national companies is more and more real.

It is so important that Libraries are able to ensure that the University community can access information wherever, and in whichever form. At the same time our students need to acquire the literacy skills to know that the knowledge does exist, that it will add to their understanding, and that they just need to be taught how to locate it. *This will ensure the holistic development of our students ~~and~~ now and in their professional lives.*

Libraries do not censor information or knowledge but seek to make all authenticated information available and to provide the means of getting to it.

Libraries link people and information to create knowledge. This capability is constantly being improved through our technologies and spaces such as we have here today. The Library's web page is a powerful tool giving instant pre-indexed access to all the journal articles we do and have subscribed as well as all of our books and other resources.

This is the commitment this Library makes to this community; this building and its initial revitalization enables us to further and, more emphatically, deliver on that promise and potential. The building, the collection and the expert library staff at all levels make a potent force for the stimulation of ideas, of creativity, of imaginative inventiveness and a powerful unlocking of our imagination for a vibrant future.

Xie Xie Da Jia

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'X' followed by several loops and a long, sweeping underline.

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Nimen hao!

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